DANVILLE REGISTER
Danville, Virginia
January 10, 1960

TOBACCO BUILDS CHURCHES

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tobacco is helping build churches in the Bible Belt.

Tobacco News, publication of the Tobacco Institute, says members of Manson Methodist Church near McKinney, Va., planted, tended and harvested leaf grown on donated plots, earning enough money to start a new church building.

Members of the Union Baptist Church at Cycle, N. C., are using the same method to finance a new church building, the magazine said.

NEWS
Indianapolis,
Indiana
January 9, 1960

Lord's Acre

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SENTINEL
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
February 11, 1960

Tobacco Still Builds Churches

The early Colonial practice of financing church buildings through levies on leaf tobacco has a modern counterpart. Today, the Tobacco Institute reports, new buildings are being constructed and old ones repaired with profits from tobacco.

In Wilkes County, members of Union Baptist Church near Cycle worked after hours last year to raise $2,660 for an education building. And in Dinwiddie County, Va., members cultivated donated land five years to raise money to begin a new Methodist church last September.

At Croom, Md., near Washington, members of an Episcopal church use match books to tell the story of how their church was built in 1732 with money from levies on tobacco. The match covers are passed out by members.

The rector at the Croom church says plans for a modern tobacco-growing project to finance church improvements are now being considered.

POST
Denver,
Colorado
January 9, 1960

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THE NEW YORK TIMES
New York, New York
January 11, 1960

'TOBACCO CHURCHES'

Parishioners Raise Crops to Pay for New Buildings

Churches being built with funds from sales of home-grown tobacco are continuing an historic colonial tradition, according to the Tobacco News, published by Tobacco Institute, Inc.

The typical church projects are under way at the Union Baptist Church at Cycle, N. C., and the Manson Methodist Church near McKenney, Va.

At the Manson church, tobacco was grown for five years on small plots donated by church members. Business men, housewives and even children planted, tended, and harvested the crop on week-ends and in their spare time. By September, 1959, the tobacco fund had grown sufficiently to start the new church which is rising near the site where there has been a Manson church since 1815.

An even older "tobacco church" is St. Thomas Episcopal at Croom, Md. Still in use today, it was constructed in 1732 with funds from a levy of tobacco leaf imposed by parishioners upon themselves to "construct a chapel of ease."

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Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/hfcm0000